

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus, comprising:
  - an input portion which accepts input of a print job including image data;
  - an print portion which prints the image data to a recording medium;
  - a plurality of compressing/expanding devices which compress image data and expand compressed image data;
  - a file memory which stores said compressed image data compressed by the compressing/expanding device;
  - a discrimination portion which discriminates whether the print job is a print job which makes plural prints of the image data or a single print of the image data;
  - a color/monochrome discrimination portion which discriminates whether the image data is color data or monochrome data; and
  - a compressing/expanding controller which selects one of a first mode, a second mode, and a third mode, wherein
    - a) in the first mode, a part of the plurality of compressing/expanding devices is allotted to compression operation compressing/expanding devices for compressing the image data and the other part or remaining compressing/expanding devices are allotted to expansion operation compressing/expanding devices for expanding the image data, and the compression operation compressing/expanding devices and the expansion operation compressing/expanding devices are operated in parallel,

b) in the second mode, all of the plurality of compressing/expanding devices are allotted to compression operation compressing/expanding devices for compressing the image data and operated as compression operation compressing/expanding devices, and

c) in the third mode, all of the plurality of compressing/expanding devices are allotted to expansion operation compressing/expanding devices for expanding the image data and operated as expansion operation compressing/expanding devices,

wherein in cases where it is discriminated by the discrimination portion that the print job is a print job which makes plural prints of the image data and the color/monochrome discrimination portion discriminates that the image data is monochrome data,

the plurality of compressing/expanding devices are operated in the first mode, and

the image-monochrome data is transferred to the part of the compression operation compressing/expanding devices as monochrome image data for a first print, second and subsequent prints, and

wherein in cases where it is discriminated by the discrimination portion that the print job is a print job which makes plural prints of the image data and it is discriminated by the color/monochrome discrimination portion that the image data is color data,

the plurality of compressing/expanding devices are operated in the second mode, and

the image-color data is transferred without compression or expansion to the print portion as image-color data for a first print, and

concurrently the image-color data is transferred to all of the compression operation compressing/expanding devices as image-color data for second and subsequent prints.

2. (Currently Amended) The data processing apparatus as recited in claim 1,

wherein in cases where the plurality of compressing/expanding devices are operated in the first mode, depending on information amount of the monochrome image-data, the number of compressing/expanding devices to be allotted to compression operation compressing/expanding devices and the number of compressing/expanding devices to be allotted to expansion operation compressing/expanding devices are changed.

3. (Currently Amended) The data processing apparatus as recited in claim 1,

wherein the monochrome image-data transferred to the part of compression operation compressing/expanding devices as monochrome image-data for the first print, second and subsequent prints is compressed by the part of compression operation compressing/expanding devices and stored in the file memory, thereafter the compressed monochrome image-data stored in the file memory is transferred to the other part or remaining expansion operation compressing/expanding devices and expanded, and the expanded monochrome image-data is transferred to the print portion to be printed.

4. (Currently Amended) The data processing apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein in cases where it is discriminated by the discrimination portion that the print job is a print job which makes plural prints of the image data and that it is discriminated by the color/monochrome discrimination portion that the image data is color data,

the image-color data transferred to all of compression operation compressing/expanding devices as image-color data for second and subsequent prints is compressed by all of the compression operation compressing/expanding devices and stored in the file memory, and thereafter

the plurality of compressing/expanding devices are operated in the third mode, the compressed image-color data stored in the file memory is transferred to all of expansion operation compressing/expanding devices and expanded, and the expanded image-color data is transferred to the print portion to be printed.

5-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
the data processing apparatus of claim 1.

23. (New) An image forming apparatus, comprising: the data processing apparatus of claim 2.

24. (New) An image forming apparatus, comprising: the data processing apparatus of claim 3.

25. (New) An image forming apparatus, comprising: the data processing apparatus of claim 4.